

**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying:

Administrative Law Court, Judge, Seat #2

1. Name: Mr.
Mrs. Debra Sherman Tedeschi
Ms.

Name that you are known by if different from above: Deb / Debbi
(Example: A Nickname):

Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? No
(Includes Municipal, Magistrate, Etc.)

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Business Address: 1550 Gadsden Street, Columbia, SC 29201

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: (home): [REDACTED]
(office): 803-737-2667

2. Date of Birth: [REDACTED] 1967
Place of Birth: New Jersey
Social Security Number: [REDACTED]

3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes
Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes

4. SCDL# or SCHD#: [REDACTED]
Voter Registration Number: [REDACTED]

5. Family Status: In the space below, (a) state whether you are single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated; (b) if married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name; (c) if you have ever been divorced or are in the process of obtaining a divorce, state the date, name of the moving party, court, and grounds; and (d) state the names of your children and their ages. If your children are old enough to work, include the occupation of each child.

Family Status: Married on December 30, 1995 to David John Tedeschi
Never divorced, two children
[REDACTED]

6. Have you served in the military? If so, give the dates, branch of service, highest rank attained, serial number (if applicable), present status, and the character of your discharge or release.
No.
7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
(a) Rutgers College, 1985-1989, B.A. Computer Science major/English minor, cum laude
(b) University of Pittsburgh School of Law, 1993-1996, J.D., magna cum laude
8. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. If you took the bar exam more than once in any of the states listed, please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.
(a) South Carolina, 1998
(b) Pennsylvania, 1997
9. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at college, graduate, and law school. Give the dates you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.
(a) While at college, I volunteered/worked periodically for the daily newspaper, The Targum, as a copy editor.
(b) During my Junior year of college, I spent a semester Abroad in Israel (September 1987-January 1988).
(c) During my Senior year of college, I was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa.
(d) During law school, I made Law Review, and in my third year I served as Managing Editor.
(e) While a third-year law student, I participated in the John J. Gibbons National Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition and made it to the Quarterfinal round (1996).
10. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years.
- | <u>Conference/CLE Name</u> | <u>Date(s)</u> |
|---|----------------|
| (a) SCWLA: Troubling Statistics | 06/2/2011 |
| (b) SCWLA: The USC Law School Nonprofit | 09/01/2011 |
| (c) SC Bar: Annual Solo-Small Firm Seminar | 09/23/2011 |
| (d) SCWLA: Women Lawyers and Leadership | 10/21/2011 |
| (e) Sowell Gray: Mediation and Arbitration: Three Perspectives | 01/11/2012 |
| (f) SC Bar: Annual Bar Convention | 01/20-21/2012 |
| (g) SCWLA: Autism and the Law | 04/05/2012 |
| (h) SCAG: Investigating & Prosecuting | 07/27/2012 |
| (i) SCAARLA: Powerful Witness Preparation | 11/09/2012 |
| (j) SCWLA: 2012 Ethics and Discipline Update | 01/11/2013 |
| (k) Sowell Gray: Keep Calm & Appeal On-Appellate Practice in SC | 01/16/2013 |
| (l) SC Bar: Annual Bar Convention | 01/25/2013 |
| (m) SCAG: Selected Criminal Procedure issues and Affordable Housing | 10/18/2013 |

(n) SCAC: Local Government Attorneys Institute	11/22/2013
(o) SCAG: Agencies Working with the AG's Office	01/17/2014
(p) SCAG: Election Law	02/21/2014
(q) NAUIAP: Annual UI Appeals Training Conference	06/22-26/2014
(r) SCWLA: U.S. Supreme Court Update	07/10/2014
(s) SCAG: Workplace Issues and Privacy Seminar	09/19/2014
(t) SCWLA: Understanding the Rules Governing Social Security	10/02/2014
(u) SCAARLA: Internet for Lawyers-The Cybersleuth's Guide	01/16/2015
(v) SCAG: Art of Handling an Arbitration Case	06/26/2015
(w) SCWLA: Highlights of the Current Term of the US Supreme Court	07/09/2015
(x) SCAG: "Do the DEW"	08/21/2015
(y) SCAC: SC Local Government Attorneys Institute	11/20/2015
(z) SCSC: National Organization of Bar Counsel Webinar	01/14/2016
(aa) SC Bar: SC Lawyer's Guide to Appellate Practice	02/16/2016
(bb) SCWLA: Pathway to Judgeship in SC	06/09/2016
(cc) SCWLA: US Supreme Court Update 2015-16 Term	07/14/2016

11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.
 - (a) I lectured about administrative appeals in June 2016 at a summer course on Administrative Law at the University of South Carolina School of Law.
 - (b) I organized and presented at a CLE sponsored by the South Carolina Attorney General's Office entitled "Do the DEW" in August 2015. The CLE covered an overview of the Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) and information about Unemployment Insurance Claims and Appeals.
 - (c) I lectured on the topic of Unemployment Insurance and Drug Testing at the annual conference for the National Association of Unemployment Insurance Appeals Professionals (NAUIAP) in June 2014.
 - (d) I lectured on the prosecution of Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) at the South Carolina Solicitors' Association annual Conference in September 2004.
 - (e) I taught Legal Writing to first year law students as an Adjunct Professor at the University of South Carolina School of Law for the 1999-2000 and 2005-2006 school years.

12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.

Identity Theft: A Primer, 19 S.C. Lawyer 20 (March 2008)

The Predicament of the Transsexual Prisoner, 5 Temp. Pol. & Civ. Rts. L. Rev. 27 (1995)

Comment, Federal Rule of Evidence 413: Redistributing "The Credibility Quotient," 57 U. Pitt. L. Rev. 107 (1995)

13. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.
 - (a) U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, 1996;

- (b) Pennsylvania, 1997;
 - (c) South Carolina, 1998;
 - (d) U.S. Supreme Court, 2006;
 - (e) U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, 2010;
 - (f) U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina, 2011.
14. Describe chronologically your legal experience since graduation from law school and include a list of all law firms with which you have been associated. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years.
- Litigation Associate in Private Sector, 1996-1998
- (a) Upon my graduation from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1996, I joined Pittsburgh's largest law firm, Kirkpatrick & Lockhart, as a litigation associate. This large, international law firm is now known as K&L Gates. While an associate, I assisted in several commercial litigation matters, including cases involving employment law, intellectual property, and insurance coverage issues.
 - (b) In 1997, my husband accepted a job as a Physics Professor at the University of South Carolina, and we moved from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to Columbia, South Carolina. I became a litigation associate with Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough. From 1997-1998, I assisted in several commercial litigation matters, with a focus on product liability litigation.
- Staff Attorney/Judicial Law Clerk at South Carolina Supreme Court, 1998-2004
- (c) I joined the South Carolina Supreme Court's Staff Attorney office in 1998 and served as a staff attorney for two years. My responsibilities included researching a wide variety of legal issues related to direct criminal appeals, petitions for writs of certiorari, and appellate motions. I drafted memoranda, opinions, and orders for the Court's review.
 - (d) In 2000, I began my service as a judicial law clerk for Associate Justice John H. ("Johnny") Waller, Jr. I analyzed issues in all areas of law for cases on appeal and in original jurisdiction matters. The cases included matters of civil, criminal, domestic, and administrative law. I reviewed the records on appeal and the advocates' legal briefs, performed additional research, and then drafted bench memoranda for Justice Waller with recommendations on the legal issues. These memoranda were distributed to the other Court Justices for their review. In addition, I attended oral arguments, and drafted majority, concurring, and dissenting opinions for Justice Waller's review.
- Dedicated Prosecutor for Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, 2004-2005
- (e) In 2004, I was hired by South Carolina Attorney General Henry McMaster to be South Carolina's first dedicated prosecutor of Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC). In this role, I developed procedures to assist South Carolina law enforcement officers and prosecutors with effectively investigating and prosecuting ICAC matters. As a member of the Attorney General's Prosecution and State Grand Jury divisions, I prosecuted both child pornography and internet criminal solicitation cases. I provided specialized legal advice to SLED at the Computer Crime Center, trained law enforcement, and did public speaking as part of the community outreach function of the ICAC Task Force.
- Adjunct Legal Writing Instructor, 2005-2006 (and also part-time 1999-2000)
- (f) I taught first-year law students at the University of South Carolina's School of Law legal writing and reasoning skills. The course topics included teaching students how to: (1)

analyze and brief legal cases; (2) draft objective memoranda and persuasive briefs; and (3) effectively present an oral argument in court.

Judicial Law Clerk at South Carolina Supreme Court, 2006-2009

(g) I returned to Justice Waller's chambers and worked again as a judicial law clerk until Justice Waller's retirement at the end of 2009. For duties, see subsection (d) above.

Solo Practitioner, 2010-2012

(h) At the beginning of 2010, I began my own law firm, The Tedeschi Law Firm, P.A. I focused my practice on Appellate Law, Administrative Law, Veterans' Disability Law, and Civil Litigation.

Office of General Counsel at the S.C. Dept. of Employment & Workforce, 2011-present

(i) At the end of 2011, I returned to the public sector/State employment when I was hired as Assistant General Counsel for the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW). I was promoted to Deputy General Counsel in 2012, and in 2015, I was given supervisory/management duties. As an attorney with DEW's Office of General Counsel (OGC), I handle an appellate case load before the Administrative Law Court, which involves defending DEW's final agency decisions when they are appealed. These cases on occasion get further appealed to the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court. For these appellate cases, I draft briefs, motions, petitions for certiorari (or returns to petitions), and deliver oral arguments on behalf of DEW. Additionally, as Deputy General Counsel, I provide a wide variety of legal advice to the executive leadership team and other internal DEW clients on different matters including: state and federal regulatory/statutory compliance; information technology contracts and related issues, to include contract negotiation and management; legislation; and data privacy/confidentiality issues.

15. Please answer the following (if you are a judge and are not seeking a different type of judgeship, this question is inapplicable):

- (a) If you are a candidate for Family Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience within each of the following Family Court practice areas: divorce and equitable division of property, child custody, adoption, abuse and neglect, and juvenile justice. Include information about cases you have handled in each of these practice areas, or if you have not practiced in an area, describe how your background has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Family Court Judge.
- (b) If you are a candidate for Circuit Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience in criminal matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the issues involved. Further, please provide a brief written description of your experience in civil matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the types of matters handled, issues involved, and procedural history. Please include information such as the primary areas in civil court in which you practice, whether you represent plaintiffs or defendants, or both. You may go back further than five years if you feel it would assist the Commission with its assessment of your experience. If you lack experience in an area, describe how your background has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Circuit Court Judge, or how you would compensate for your lack of experience in this area.

- (c) If you are a candidate for Master-In-Equity, please provide a brief written description of your experience in the Master's court, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the issues involved. Please include the frequency of your appearances before a Master-In-Equity.
- (d) If you are a candidate for Administrative Law Judge, please provide a brief written description of your experience before an Administrative Law Judge, including any issues discussed and the frequency of your appearances before the Administrative Law Judge Court.

For the past several years as Deputy General Counsel for DEW, I have appeared frequently and consistently before all the current judges of the Administrative Law Court (ALC). These cases are appellate review of final DEW unemployment insurance (UI) decisions, which are primarily related to UI benefits, but may also involve a business litigating an appeal on UI tax issues. Both factual and legal issues are argued, and the substantial evidence standard of review is an important part of almost every appeal. Additionally, on behalf of DEW, I have litigated a Setoff Debt Act contested case and appeared for a public hearing on a DEW regulation that was being amended. As a result, I have become intimately familiar with the ALC Rules, which are also the frequent subject of motions filed in these cases. Also, when I was in solo practice, I litigated an appeal before Judge McLeod involving a social worker's license which was regulated by the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation.

16. What is your rating, if any, by any legal rating organization, such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who's Who Legal, Super Lawyers, etc.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any.

n/a

*** Retired justices/judges and justices/judges applying for re-election to their current position may omit Questions 17-22. If a candidate is seeking a judgeship different than his or her current position, Questions 17-22 should be answered based on experience prior to serving on the bench.**

17. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the five years prior to your election to the bench?
- (a) federal: During my solo practice, I appeared sporadically in federal court through appellate court filings when I handled Veterans' Disability claims (2011).
 - (b) state: During the past 5 years, I have occasionally appeared in person representing DEW for oral arguments before the South Carolina Administrative Law Court, Court of Appeals, and Supreme Court. However, I frequently appear in those same courts through written filings related to DEW appeals, most often (at least monthly) in the Administrative Law Court. I have also appeared before the Administrative Law court in a contested case matter and a regulatory hearing.
18. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the five years prior to your election to the bench?

- (a) civil: 97% (including administrative law)
 - (b) criminal: 2% (I hold a designation from the South Carolina Attorney General as a Special Assistant Attorney General for the purpose of assisting with Unemployment Insurance fraud criminal prosecutions)
 - (c) domestic: 1%
 - (d) other:
19. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the five years prior to your election to the bench involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?
- (a) jury: 0%
 - (b) non-jury: 100%
- Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters? Most often, I served as sole counsel or co-counsel.
20. List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court or before a state or federal agency, prior to your election to the bench. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.
- (a) Jackson v Sanford, 398 S.C. 580, 731 S.E.2d 722 (2011).
In this appeal, I (along with James E. Smith, Jr.) represented Petitioner Darrick Jackson, Mayor of the Town of Timmonsville. This was a declaratory judgment action brought in the South Carolina Supreme Court's original jurisdiction to determine whether Governor Mark Sanford's veto of certain appropriations was unconstitutional. The Court held in favor of Mayor Jackson, finding that a Governor's line-item veto power allows a governor to veto "items," which comprise both the designated funds and the object and purposes for which the appropriation is intended." Therefore, where the Governor had vetoed only the funds-related part of an item, that veto was held unconstitutional. This matter is significant to me because it involved an issue of major public importance -- the interpretation of a constitutional power of the executive branch. It also was the first time I argued a case in front of the South Carolina Supreme Court -- I presented the Reply portion of Petitioner's argument.
 - (b) Rest Assured, LLC v. S.C. Dep't of Emp. & Workforce, Mem. Op. No. 2015-MO-072 (S.C. Sup. Ct. filed Dec. 9, 2015).
In this unemployment insurance (UI) tax liability matter, the issue was whether Rest Assured's home health care assistants were misclassified as independent contractors by the business. At the agency level, DEW held the workers to be employees, and therefore, their wages were subject to UI tax contributions. This matter is significant to me because it was one of my first assignments when I began working at DEW. I litigated many procedural aspects of this case in the circuit court, ALC and the Court of Appeals. Then, the substantive matters were heard by the ALC, which upheld DEW's decision. The business appealed, and the Court of Appeals reversed in an unpublished decision. I drafted the petition for writ of certiorari, which was promptly granted by the Supreme Court, and subsequently briefed and argued the case to the Supreme Court, where DEW's decision prevailed.
 - (c) AnMed Health v. S.C. Dep't of Emp. & Workforce, 404 S.C. 224, 743 S.E.2d 854 (Ct. App. 2013).

In this case, a hospital discharged a human resources employee for failing to get a flu shot under the hospital's mandatory flu shot policy. When the employee applied for unemployment insurance (UI) benefits, DEW found her eligible for benefits. The hospital appealed to the ALC which affirmed DEW's decision. The hospital then appealed to the Court of Appeals. The Court of Appeals found that the hospital's policy was reasonable, but also found that the substantial evidence supported DEW's decision holding the UI claimant was eligible for benefits. This decision is significant for UI law because it establishes that even while an employer may properly discharge an employee pursuant to its reasonable health and safety policy, the employee may nevertheless be entitled to UI benefits if the employee's reason for non-compliance with the policy was reasonable under the circumstances. This is significant decision for me personally because it was one of the first times I argued to the Court of Appeals.

- (d) Nucor Corp. v. S.C. Dep't of Emp. & Workforce, 410 S.C. 507, 765 S.E.2d 558 (2014).

This case is significant because it reinforces the important principle of administrative law that when an appellate court is reviewing an agency's final decision under the substantial evidence rule, the appellate court is constrained to affirm when reasonable minds could reach the same result -- even if the appellate court itself would have come to a different decision as factfinder.

- (e) Yonemura v. Tom Sawyer Productions, Inc., Case Number: 2010-CP-40-01188.

This case is significant to me because the plaintiffs, two young women, were my very first clients when I hung a shingle in 2010. It is also significant because it became my first (and only) jury trial. My clients ultimately did not prevail at trial, but they were pleased with my representation because they truly felt they had their day in court.

21. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled, prior to your election to the bench. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported. In addition to the many appeals I reviewed while a staff attorney/judicial law clerk during my employment at the South Carolina Supreme Court, as well as the four appeals listed above in question 20(a)-(d), I have also personally handled the following civil appeals:

- (a) Hollins v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., Op. No. 26937 (S.C. Sup. Ct. filed March 7, 2011).
 (b) Budreau v. Budreau, Op. No. 2012-UP-516 (S.C. Ct. App. Filed Sept. 12, 2012).
 (c) Lippincott v. S.C. Dep't of Emp. & Workforce, Op. No. 2013-UP-056 (S.C. Ct. App. filed Jan. 30, 2013).

(d)

(e)

22. List up to five criminal appeals that you have personally handled, prior to your election to the bench. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported.

During my almost ten years of employment with the South Carolina Supreme Court as a staff attorney/judicial law clerk, I reviewed probably hundreds of criminal appeals matters, including direct appeals and state habeas corpus actions in death penalty cases. However, I have not personally litigated any criminal appeals.

(a)

- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

23. Have you ever held judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the courts involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Describe the jurisdiction of each of the courts and note any limitations on the jurisdiction of each court.
No

24. If the answer to question 23 is yes, describe or list five of your most significant orders or opinions and give the citations if they were reported. Also list citations to any appellate review of these orders or opinions.

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

25. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the office or offices involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Also, state whether or not you have timely filed your report with the State Ethics Commission during the period you held public office. If not, were you ever subject to a penalty? If so, give details, including dates.
No.

26. List all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor.
n/a

27. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates.
No.

28. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office? If so, give details, including a description of your occupation, business, or profession, the dates of your employment, and the name of your business or employer.

Yes. Prior to law school, I was employed as a computer professional. Upon my college graduation in 1989, I began a job with Andersen Consulting as a computer consultant/computer programmer. I worked for Andersen from 1989-1990. (This international consulting company is now known as Accenture.)

From 1991-1993, I worked for a small start-up company called Synapse Systems. This company sold medical billing software, and I supported the software in various ways, such as customer and sales support.

In August 1993, I began law school.

29. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? Explain the nature of the business, your duties, and the term of your service.
No.
30. Provide, as a separate attachment, a complete, current financial net worth statement that itemizes in detail:
- (a) the identity and value of all financial assets held, directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings; and
 - (b) the identity and amount of each liability owed, directly or indirectly, which is in excess of \$1,000, including, but not limited to, debts, mortgages, loans, and other financial obligations.
- (Your response to this question may state "see attached").

(A net worth statement is provided with this questionnaire and you must use this format for submission of your financial statement.)

A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission, see attached.

NOTE: The Commission may require written confirmation that financial obligations have been satisfied or that the parties have agreed upon a payment schedule.

31. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest.
n/a
32. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law? If so, give details but do not include traffic violations for which a fine of \$125 or less was imposed.
No.
33. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If yes, explain.
No.
34. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? If so, give details.
No, to all three questions.

35. Have you ever been sued, either personally or professionally, that is, have you ever been named as defendant or respondent in any court of law? If so, give details, including, but not limited to, dates and resolution.
No.
36. Have you ever, in South Carolina or any other jurisdiction, as a lawyer, judge, or other professional, been sanctioned or disciplined for lawyer, judicial, or other professional misconduct or has any jurisdiction found that you committed any misconduct? If so, give the details and describe any final disposition.
[Yes and no responses are redacted for all candidates unless there is a public discipline.]
37. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? If so, give the details and the resolution. Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect? If so, give the details.
No.
38. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance? If applicable, have you ever been covered by a tail policy? If so, please explain when you were covered by a tail policy. Also, if applicable, indicate your coverage and deductible for your current malpractice policy.
n/a
39. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site or have you, to your knowledge, been featured or depicted on a social media or Internet site, such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.? If so, how would your use of social media or other similar types of Internet sites be affected if you were serving in a judicial capacity?
I have a Facebook and a LinkedIn profile/page. I also have an Internet site that was associated with my solo practice at www.tedeschilaw.com.
If I was to serve in a judicial capacity, I would remove my LinkedIn profile/page and I would take down my Internet site at www.tedeschilaw.com. I currently utilize my Facebook page primarily for personal communications with family and friends, and I would plan to retain that, but be extra vigilant to avoid any perception of political speech or activity.
40. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a "lobbyist," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a "lobbyist's principal," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(14)? If so, give the dates of your employment or activity in such capacity and specify by whom you were directed or employed.
No.
41. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal? If so, please specify the item or items you received, the date of receipt, and the lobbyist or lobbyist's principal involved.
No.

42. S.C. Code § 8-13-700 provides, in part, that “[n]o public official, public member, or public employee may knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to obtain an economic interest for himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated.” Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. Include the disposition, if any, of such charges or allegations.
n/a
43. S.C. Code § 8-13-765 provides, in part, that “[n]o person may use government personnel, equipment, materials, or an office building in an election campaign.” Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. Include the disposition, if any, of such charges or allegations.
n/a
44. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you, or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek. If you have spent over \$100, have you reported your expenditures to the House and Senate Ethics Committees?
I have not made any expenditures as of yet.
45. List the amount and recipient of all contributions made by you or on your behalf to members of the General Assembly since the announcement of your intent to seek election to a judgeship.
n/a
46. Have you directly or indirectly requested the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened or have you been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your screening? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? If so, give details.
Note: The flash drive with your application materials contains (1) Section 2-19-70(c); (2) JMSC Rule 24, and (3) informal opinions and letters concerning pledging prohibitions, with which third parties acting on your behalf, as well as you, must comply.
No.
47. Have you requested any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released? If so, give details. Are you aware of any third parties contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf? If so, give details.
No, to both questions.

48. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges until after the draft report becomes final, which occurs on the day and time specified on the Commission's published screening schedule?
Yes.
49. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? If so, please specify the amount, solicitor, donor, and date of the solicitation.
No.
50. Since submitting your letter of intent to become a candidate, have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted any member of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? If so, give details.
No.
51. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.
(a) South Carolina Bar Association
Served on the S.C. Bar's Professional Potential Task Force (2008-2011)
(b) South Carolina Women's Law Association
(c) National Association for Unemployment Insurance Appeals Professionals (NAUIAP)
52. List all civic, charitable, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five years and include any offices held in such a group, any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.
(a) Tree of Life Congregation, Member; also on Board of Directors (July 2016 - present, and 2002-2013)
(b) Fast Forward, Board of Directors (2010-2013)
53. Provide any other information that may reflect positively or negatively on your candidacy, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for nomination for the position you seek. This information may include how your life experiences have affected or influenced the kind or type of judge you have been or plan to be.

My parents grew up in Brooklyn, New York, and I myself was born and raised in New Jersey. My dad never went to college; my mom went to community college to become a teacher after my two older brothers and I were all enrolled in school. I never imagined that someday I would move to South Carolina and plant my family roots here. I certainly never entertained the thought that I would become a South Carolina lawyer who would someday apply to become a judge. But, in 1992, after living and working for several years in New York City as a computer professional, I decided I wanted to change my life. I set my sights on going to law school, with the long-term goal of serving the public in some manner. That was the first step in a journey that led me to living in, and serving, the great state of South Carolina.

In 1993, I moved to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and began law school. I thoroughly enjoyed law school. This is not always an easy thing to do given the rigor and competition inherent in the law school experience. However, I thrived in the environment and succeeded academically. Meanwhile, on a personal level, my boyfriend (who coincidentally also grew up in New Jersey) became my fiancé and then my husband during those three years of law school. After graduation, I began practicing as a lawyer in the private sector at the largest Pittsburgh law firm. During my first year of practicing law, my husband was offered a job as an Assistant Professor in the Physics Department at the University of South Carolina. I was so happy and proud that he was fulfilling his career aspirations, (I got a great job with Nelson Mullins), and we set our sights on Columbia, South Carolina.

One of the first things I learned about Columbia is how General Sherman burned it down on February 17, 1865. Well, with a middle/maiden name of Sherman, I started to wonder how I would fit in when we made the move. A wonderful thing happened though -- my husband and I embraced South Carolina and South Carolina embraced us. Within a year of moving to Columbia, I was working for the South Carolina Supreme Court, and I had attained my goal of practicing law and serving the public in some fashion.

Over the years, I learned to really live the state motto of "Dum spiro spero." South Carolina taught this Jersey girl to slow down a little bit and generally just be more optimistic about life. My law career has predominantly been focused on trying to use my law license to do good work. After having the honor and privilege of serving the S.C. Supreme Court for about six years, I left and began working as a dedicated prosecutor for the Attorney General's Office in the area of Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC). The Attorney General at the time, Henry McMaster, wanted to tackle this tough issue and make quick and steady progress. I wanted to combine my background in computer science with being a lawyer. The idea that I would be fighting for children also appealed to me given that I was now a mother of two young boys. Even though my work at the AG's office was over ten years ago, I am extremely proud of the abundance of good work that we got done in my relatively brief tenure as the first dedicated ICAC prosecutor.

From there my legal career took some more turns, all good ones. I taught legal writing, returned to the Supreme Court to again clerk for Justice Waller, and then after Justice Waller retired, I opened my own law firm. This certainly was another step in my journey that I had not envisioned even a couple of years earlier. Being a solo practitioner taught me so much about how wonderful the members of the South Carolina Bar are -- collaborative, professional and helpful. I became a better attorney, a more resourceful and confident lawyer. I was able to help our veterans get the disability benefits they deserved, and also continued developing as an appellate advocate. Yet I missed serving the State of South Carolina, and at the end of 2011, I happily returned to state employment with the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW). This new cabinet agency, statutorily created in 2010, had formerly been the Employment Security Commission. My new job required a variety of legal skills -- appellate work, some criminal prosecution, and a variety of "general counsel" on other issues, many involving computer technology. All the steps of my legal career started to make sense to me, and I threw myself into working for DEW.

Now, after almost five years of service to DEW working primarily in the area of Administrative Law, I find myself seeking a new way to publicly serve. It would be an honor and a privilege to be able to work as a South Carolina Administrative Law Judge.

Having worked with many of this State's best judges for a good portion of my legal career, I am aware that being a judge is no easy task. However, I believe this is the next logical step in my hopeful journey to use my legal acumen for good.

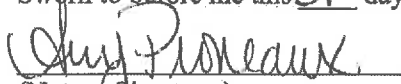
54. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons, including your banker, from whom you are providing references. Also, provide the Commission with **original letters** of recommendation from each person listed herein, including their signature (preferably in blue ink). **The Commission will not accept a photocopy or electronic submission of a letter of recommendation and failure to include all five (5) original letters of recommendation in your packet when you submit it will render your packet incomplete.** Please **do not** have references mail your reference letters to the Commission directly. *You must return the five (5) original letters of recommendation to the Commission with your application packet.*
- (a) John H. (Johnny) Waller, Jr., The Waller Law Firm, LLC, P.O. Box 1026, Marion SC 29571, 843-765-3087
 - (b) Darrell T. Scott, Capitol Resources, LLC, 1411 Gervais Street, Columbia SC 29201, 864-247-0548
 - (c) Tina M. Cundari, Sowell Gray, P.O. Box 11449, Columbia SC, 29211, 803-231-7834
 - (d) Allison Cahill Hardin, 60 Hamptonwood Way, Columbia SC 29209, 803-783-1832
 - (e) Lin Gregg, V.P. Bank of America, 1301 Gervais Street, Columbia SC 29201, 803-726-1200
55. Describe any interest you or a member of your immediate family has in real property:
- (a) in which there is a potential conflict of interest with your involvement in a South Carolina state or local public agency;
 - (b) in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or that adjoins property in which there have been public improvements of \$200; or
 - (c) which was sold, leased, or rented to a state or local public agency in South Carolina.
- None.
- List the interest you hold and the value and location of the property. Identify as applicable the:
- (a) nature of any potential conflict of interest;
 - (b) nature and value of any public improvements; and
 - (c) South Carolina state or local public agency which purchased or is leasing or renting such property.
- Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.
n/a
56. Identify any personal property interest you or a member of your immediate family sold, leased, or rented to a South Carolina state or local public agency. Identify the property, its amount or value, and the name of the agency. Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.
n/a
57. For sitting judges, have you used judicial letterhead or the services of your staff, for which you did not pay, while campaigning for this office? n/a

YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY PROCEEDING BEFORE A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OR ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR CREDIT.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT MY ANSWERS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature: 

Sworn to before me this 31st day of July, 2016.


(Notary Signature)

Amy Proveau
(Notary Printed Name)

Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission Expires: 12/5/2022